MODIFICATIONS TO CLAIM STATUS

By way of overview, claims 1—25 are currently pending. Of these pending claims:

A) Claims 1—14 and 19—25 remain in original form.

B) Claims 15—18 are currently amended.

1. (original) A method of producing aesthetic color print output, comprising:

modifying a first error value to produce a first modified error value; and

basing a color plane firing decision on a comparison of the first modified error value and a second error value.

2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein modifying comprises:

using a function to derive an error modification value; and

multiplying the error modification value with the first error value in response to a value in a bitmap.

3. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein an input value to the function is a minority color plane value.

4. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein modifying comprises multiplying the first error value and the second error value by a fraction derived from a matrix.

5. (original) The method of claim 1, additionally comprising distributing fractional portions of the first error value and the second error value to locations on a first color plane and a second color plane, respectively.

6. (original) The method of claim 5 wherein distributing comprises using a weight format to determine the fractional portions.

7. (original) The method of claim 6 additionally comprising selecting the weight format based on a magnitude of a first color plane value.

8. (original) A method of processing color plane information, comprising:

modifying first and second error values to produce first and second modified error values, respectively;

basing a color plane firing decision on a comparison of the first modified error value and the second modified error value; and

distributing portions of the first and second error values to adjacent pixel locations on first and second color planes, respectively.

9. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein modifying comprises:

using a function to derive an error modification value; and

multiplying the error modification value with the first error value in response to a value in a bitmap.

10. (original) The method of claim 9, wherein an input value to the function is a minority color plane value.

11. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein modifying comprises multiplying the first error value and the second error value by a number derived from a matrix.

12. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein modifying comprises multiplying the first error value and the second error value by a number derived from a matrix if the first and second color plane values are greater than the matrix value and greater than the inverse matrix value, respectively.

13. (original) The method of claim 8 wherein distributing comprises using a weight format to determine the portions.

14. (original) The method of claim 13 additionally comprising selecting the weight format based on a magnitude of a first color plane value.

15. (currently amended) A system for producing color print output, comprising:

a ~~halftoning~~ file translation module configured to: ~~to calculate error, to calculate modified error and to base a firing decision on the modified error; and~~

modify first and second error values to produce first and second modified error values, respectively;

base a color plane firing decision on a comparison of the first and second modified error values; and

distribute the first and second error values to adjacent pixel locations on a first and a second color plane, respectively, according to an error format.

~~an error format by which the error is distributed.~~

16. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The system of claim 15, wherein the file translation module comprises:~~comprising:~~

~~a halftoning module to calculate error, to calculate a modified error and to base a firing decision on the modified error;~~

an error modification function to provide a number by which error is multiplied to yield modified error~~; and~~

~~an error format by which the error is distributed~~.

17. (currently amended) The system of claim [[16]]15, wherein the file translation module comprises:~~additionally comprising~~ a bitmap to which reference may be made to determine to which color plane the error modification function is applied.

18. (currently amended) The system of claim [[16]]15, wherein the file translation module comprises:~~additionally comprising~~ a matrix to provide numbers by which error is multiplied to yield modified error.

19. (original) A processor readable medium having processor executable instructions thereon which, when executed by a processor cause the processor to:

modify first and second error values to produce first and second modified error values, respectively;

base a color plane firing decision on a comparison of the first and second modified error values; and

distribute the first and second error values to adjacent pixel locations on a first and a second color plane, respectively.

20. (original) The processor readable medium of claim 19, wherein the instructions also cause the processor to:

use a function to derive an error modification value; and

multiply the error modification value with the first error value in response to a positive value in a bitmap.

21. (original) The processor readable medium of claim 20, wherein the instructions also cause the processor to use a minority color plane value as an input value to the function.

22. (original) The processor readable medium of claim 19, wherein the instructions also cause the processor to:

select, based on the value of a first and a second color value, first and second weight formats, respectively, to distribute the first and second error values, respectively, to adjacent pixel locations on the first and second color planes, respectively.

23. (original) The processor readable medium of claim 22, wherein the instructions also cause the processor to select the first and second weight formats based on a magnitude of the first and second modified error values, respectively.

24. (original) The processor readable medium of claim 19, wherein the instructions also cause the processor to use a matrix to modify the first error value and the second error value.

25. (original) The processor readable medium of claim 19, wherein the instructions also cause the processor to multiply the first and second error values by a number derived from a matrix if a first color plane value and a second color plane value are greater than the matrix value and greater than the inverse matrix value, respectively.